

## Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EURE-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00 INRE-00  
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FM AMEMBASSY MADRID  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8318  
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN  
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS  
AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN  
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AMEMBASSY OSLO  
AMEMBASSY PARIS  
USMISSION NATO  
USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

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E.O. 11652:N/A  
TAGS: PINT, SP  
SUBJECT: PRIME MINISTER ADDRESSES THE NATION

1. IN HIS WIDELY PRAISED NATION-WIDE RADIO-TELEVISION REFERENDUM-EVE ADDRESS CONTENT, PRIME MINISTER ADOLFO SUAREZ SAID "THE GOVT OF HIS MAJESTY THE KING" IS ASKING FOR A YES VOTE "BECAUSE WE WANT ELECTIONS TO TAKE PLACE; AND WE WANT ELECTIONS BECAUSE WE BELIEVE THAT REPRESENTATIVE SOLUTIONS TO THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL PROBLEMS WE FACE WILL COME OUT OF THESE ELECTIONS; AND BECAUSE IT IS ONLY AS A RESULT OF ELECTIONS--CLEAN ELECTIONS--THAT THE GREAT NATIONAL EFFORTS THAT SPAIN NEEDS WILL BE POSSIBLE."

2. TAKING A MODERATE, BROADLY INCLUSIVE APPROACH, SUAREZ ARGUED AGAINST IGNORING THE PAST BUT FOR RECOGNIZING THE NEED FOR NEW RESPONSES TO CHANGED CIRCUMSTANCES. HE EMPHASIZED THE DESIRABILITY OF POPULAR PARTICIPATION AND REPRESENTATION AS THE BEST MEANS OF ACHIEVING SECURITY,

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STABILITY, AND PROGRESS, AND PRAISED THE RESTRAINT SHOWN BY

THE PEOPLE SINCE FRANCO'S DEATH. POINTING OUT THAT EXTREMISM AND TERRORISM WERE PROBLEMS BEFORE FRANCO'S DEATH, HE PROMISED VIGOROUS ACTION AGAINST CRIME AND A LAW "BROAD ENOUGH TO INCLUDE THE WHOLE OF SOCIETY," AND IN EFFECT CAST THE REFERENDUM AS (AMONG OTHER THINGS) A DEMOCRATIC RESPONSE TO TERRORISM. HE CONCLUDED, "I AM FIRMLY CONVINCED THAT IT IS POSSIBLE TO CONSOLIDATE PEACEFULLY THIS GREAT PEOPLE WE CALL SPAIN."

3. FBIS HAS SENT THE FULL TEXT; WE HIGHLIGHT THE FOLLOWING:

A. "IT IS A CASE OF MODIFYING OUR POLITICAL STRUCTURES FOR THE SOLE PURPOSE OF FITTING THEM INTO THE REALITY OF SPAIN AND THE PLURALISM THAT EXISTS WITHIN HER SOCIAL FOUNDATION."

B. "THIS DOES NOT MEAN THAT WE SHOULD IGNORE OUR IMMEDIATE PAST...IT MEANS, ULTIMATELY, THAT WE HAVE ACCEPTED THE COMMITMENT TO REFORM IN ORDER TO ENLARGE LEGALITY, TO MAKE HARMONY MORE STABLE, AND TO CREATE AN ABSOLUTE OPENNESS IN PUBLIC CONDUCT."

C. "WE WANT THE SPANISH PEOPLE, THROUGH THEIR FREELY AND DEMOCRATICALLY ELECTED REPRESENTATIVES, TO CONTROL AND DIRECT THE FUTURE OF OUR COUNTRY."

D. "IF WE ASK FOR THE PRESENCE OF EVERYONE AT THE POLL, IT IS OUT OF THE PROFOUND CONVICTION THAT THE NEW POLITICAL FRAMEWORK WE ARE LOOKING FOR CAN ONLY BE RESPECTED IF IT IS BASED ON THE GENERAL CONSENT OF THE NATION."

E. "IT CAN BE DONE TODAY--AND I STRESS THIS POINT-- BECAUSE EVEN THOUGH THERE ARE THOSE WHO HAVE TIMED THEIR ATTACKS TO COINCIDE WITH THE GREAT OCCASION OF A POPULAR CONSULTATION, THE IMMENSE MAJORITY OF SPANISH CITIZENS REJECT THEIR CHALLENGES AND CONDEMN THESE ATTACKS. THE LANGUAGE OF VIOLENCE IS NO LONGER, THANK GOD, THE LANGUAGE OF OUR PEOPLE."

F. "THE GOVERNMENT KNOWS HOW TO DISTINGUISH BETWEEN SOCIAL ASPIRATIONS AND TERRORIST ATTACK, AND BETWEEN JUST DEMANDS FOR PARTICIPATION IN GOVERNMENT THROUGH CIVILIZED PROCEDURES AND THE SUBVERSIVE ATTITUDES THE REAL ENEMIES OF THE STATE AND THE PEOPLE."

G. "THE LAW WILL BE APPLIED TO WHOMSOEVER BREAKS IT, LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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BUT A LAW WILL BE CREATED THAT WILL BE BROAD ENOUGH TO INCLUDE THE WHOLE OF SOCIETY."

I. "WE HAVE TO ACHIEVE A DIFFICULT BALANCE THAT COMBINES THE LEGITIMATE AUTHORITY OF THE STATE AND THE VALUE OF ITS RULES WITH THE SOCIAL CHANGES THAT HAVE ALREADY OCCURRED AND ARE IRREVERSIBLE."

J. "I BELIEVE THAT BETWEEN US WE ARE GOING TO MAKE IT POSSIBLE THROUGH OUR VOTE, FOR THIS SOCIETY

OF OURS, WHICH HAS AT TIMES BEEN SO BADLY TREATED BY HISTORY, TO ENTER A NEW ORDER IN WHICH EXTREMISMS ARE OUTLAWED, IN WHICH FREEDOM OFFERS NO REFUGE FOR VIOLENCE, AND IN WHICH THERE IS A NEW OPPORTUNITY FOR CONCORD, NORMALITY, AND CIVIL PEACE."

K. "LET US SET UP A STABLE FORM OF GOVERNMENT BY THE ONLY POSSIBLE PROCEDURE: BY MAKING IT THOSE IN THE MAJORITY WHO EXERCISE POWER, BUT WITH PROFOUND AND EFFECTIVE RESPECT FOR THOSE IN MINORITIES."

4. SUAREZ, CALM AND PERSUASIVE, DREW ALMOST RAVE NOTICES IN THE PRESS, AND KUDOS EVEN FROM OPPOSITION LEADERS. MANY SPANIARDS SAW HIM, FEW COULD HAVE FAILED TO BE IMPRESSED, AND HE HELPED THE REFERENDUM'S CAUSE. STABLER

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